

## CHAPTER

The unbelievers's religious festivals .....	16
The general rule .....	17
Innovated festivals and fairs .....	17
A compact ruling .....	18
Fabricated religion .....	19
Why are the polytheists condemned .....	20
Basis of error .....	21

## CHAPTER

Innovation .....	22
Claim for consensus .....	24
A rejoinder to the second argument .....	26
Taraweeh prayer .....	27
Acts which are not innovations .....	30
The underlying principle .....	31
Two viewpoints of jurisprudents .....	32
Worldly ulema and misguided sufis .....	32
A clinching argument .....	33
Acts of innovation .....	34
Innovation and Sunnah .....	34
Ulema's negligence of the Qur'an .....	35
Sufis' error .....	36
No one is to be obeyed .....	36

## CHAPTER

Harmful effects of innovations .....	37
Fasting on Friday .....	37
Fasting on particular days .....	39
Its rationale .....	39
Means for getting closer to Allah .....	40
Innovation is always accompanied by false belief .....	41
Hypocrisy — an offshoot of innovation .....	41
Affirmation of the superior position of Shari'ah .....	42
Spiritual benefits in acts of innovation .....	42
Judgement of Allāh and His Messenger .....	43

No part of this book may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording or by any information storage and retrieval system, without written permission of the publisher.

First Edition الطبعة الأولى

Supervised by:  
ABDUL MALIK MUHAMMAD



Published by:

**DARUSSALAM دار السلام**

Publishers & Distributors للنشر والتوزيع  
P.O.Box 22743, Riyadh 11416 من م.ب. ٢٢٧٤٣ - الرياض ١١٤١٦  
Tel: 4033962 Fax: 4021659 ت: ٤٠٣٣٩٦٢ ف: ٤٠٢١٦٥٩  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia المملكة العربية السعودية

Branches in other Countries

<b>DARUSSALAM</b>	<b>DARUSSALAM</b>
Publishers & Distributors	Publishers & Distributors
P.O.Box: 737651, Corona	10107, Westview 308
Elmhurst Queens	Houston, Tx 77043, USA
NY 11373, USA	Tel: (713) 935-9206
Tel: (718) 699-5366	Fax: (713) 722-0431
<b>DARUSSALAM</b>	<b>DARUSSALAM</b>
Publishers & Distributors	Publishers & Distributors
50, Lower Mall Road	Rahman Market
Near M.A.O. College	Ghazni Street, Urdu Bazar
Lahore, Pakistan	Lahore, Pakistan
Tel: (042) 7354072	Tel: (042) 7120054

Direct consequences of innovations	44
<b>CHAPTER</b>	
Spatio-temporal festivals	45
Rajab festivities	45
Eid Khum Ghadeer	46
Milad (Birthday of the Prophet (ﷺ))	47
How to love the Prophet (ﷺ)	47
Zealous practitioners of innovation	48
An important point	48
Guidelines for the reformer	48
Three degrees	50
Tenth of Muharram	52
Month of Rajab	53
Fifteenth night of the month of Sha'ban	54
Funeral prayer for all Muslims	54
Congregation for <i>Nafī</i> prayers	55
Permissible forms of congregation	55
Imam Ahmad and the places associated with the Messengers	57
Ibn Masood's disciples	57
The Companions' stance	58
When is Shari'ah rule changed?	58
<b>CHAPTER</b>	
Innovations on blessed days	59
Musical instruments in Eid	60
<b>CHAPTER</b>	
Spatial gatherings	61
Major deities of Arabia	61
Dhat Anwat	62
To light lamps and make vows	63
Fake graves of saints	64
Hussain's head	65
The footsteps of the Prophet (ﷺ)	66
To see a saint in a dream	66
Reverencing inanimate objects	66
Places associated with innovation and Zihar	67

Mosque	67
Geonine graves	67
Action without knowledge	68
Vow or Offering	68
Factors for the acceptance of supplications	69

## CHAPTER

Not to erect shrines	70
Sending blessings at the Prophet's grave	70
Saints' graves	73
Supplication for the dead	74
Visiting graves	76
Visiting an unbeliever's grave	77
Undertaking a journey for visiting graves	78
Mosques at graves	79

## CHAPTER

Praying near a grave	82
How idolatry started	84
Excesses	85
Rights due to Messengers and saints	86

## CHAPTER

Supplication	87
Supplication in church	87
Supplications near graves	88
Prophet Daniel's dead body	89
Practice of the early pious Muslims	90
Sin related to praying near graves	91
Prophet Ibrahim's model	92
Arguments by those guilty of grave-worship	93
A clinching rejoinder	94
A slander against Imam Shafi'i	94
Unauthentic statements	95
Another rejoinder	96
A study of their conjectural argument	97
Magic and other forbidden acts	98
A sure way to get what one wants	98
Way of the Messengers and philosophers	99

Why unlawful supplications are granted .....	100
The right way of supplication .....	100
Resorting to magic for getting what one wants .....	101
The learned and the ignorant .....	101
Supplications and other forms of worship .....	102
A common pitfall .....	102

## CHAPTER

Ecstasy .....	103
Sahnun Muhib .....	103
Acts of the ignorant persons .....	104
Undesirability and unlawfulness in invocation .....	104
Curse of the sincere people .....	105
Charisma (Miraculous Power) .....	106
Praying to someone other than Allah .....	107
Divine decree .....	108
Proof of (Islamic) monotheism .....	109

## CHAPTER

Kinds of polytheism .....	111
Invocations — Philosophers and Sufis .....	114
Invocation in the view of believers .....	114

## CHAPTER

Offering — its nature .....	116
The misguided and the guided ones .....	117
The viewpoint of the guided ones .....	117
Another factor for the acceptance of supplication .....	118
Supplications of certain saints .....	119

## CHAPTER

Supplication near the Prophet's grave .....	120
Supplication by the practitioners of innovation .....	121
Visiting the Prophet's grave .....	121
Cause of polytheism and innovation .....	122
Touching the Prophet's grave .....	123
Selecting graves for supplication .....	123
When this practice started ? .....	124
Baseless reports .....	125

Reason for prohibition against venerating graves .....	126
Urs .....	126
Right way to love the righteous .....	127

## CHAPTER

Worship at graves .....	129
Reciting the Qur'an at graves .....	129
Awqaf for reciting the Qur'an .....	131
Charity at graves .....	132
Custodians of graves .....	132
Invoking the dead and the absent .....	133
Domination of innovation .....	133

## CHAPTER

Places associated with Messengers and the righteous .....	135
Umar's reprimand .....	136
The blessed tree .....	136
Abdullah Ibn Umar's conduct .....	137
An important distinction .....	137
The practice of the Rightly Guided Caliphs .....	138
Extirpating polytheism .....	138
Falsehood—basis of polytheism .....	139
Allah's wrath on the practitioners of innovation .....	141
Mosques or shrines .....	142
Imam Malik and the greetings at the Prophet's grave .....	143
Imam Malik versus Ziyarah (Visiting a sacred place) .....	144
Fabricated Hadith .....	144
Ibn Umar's objective .....	145
Worship at places associated with the Prophets .....	145
Kissing a particular spot .....	147
Station of Ibrahim عليه السلام and other spots .....	147

## CHAPTER

Al-Aqsa Mosque .....	149
Construction at the Sakhara .....	149
Ka'ab Ahbar's lie .....	150
False reports about the Prophet's Miraj .....	151

(the Ascension) .....	151
Ibraheem's grave .....	152

## CHAPTER

Command regarding mosques .....	153
The Prophet's Mosque .....	153
<i>Itrak</i> (devotional retreat) .....	154
Means of access for the polytheists .....	155

## CHAPTER

Intercession .....	157
Who deserves intercession most .....	159
The Prophet's supplication .....	160

## CHAPTER

Rights of Allah and of fellow human beings .....	162
Who would enter Paradise without Reckoning .....	164
Obedience to the Prophet ﷺ .....	165
Who would enjoy the taste of faith? .....	166

## CHAPTER

Main objective of Prophet Muhammad's Advent .....	168
Islam alone is Allah's religion .....	169
What is sincerity and good deed? .....	172
The credal statement of Islam: A Study .....	173
Meaning of obedience to the Prophet ﷺ .....	174
A practitioner of innovation is necessarily polytheist .....	175
Islam: A study .....	176

## CHAPTER

Basis of divine faith .....	180
Divisions among polytheists .....	182
Conduct of monotheists .....	182
Leaders of misguidance .....	183
Misconstruing monotheism .....	184
Belief in predestination .....	186
Distorting monotheism .....	187
Division of the Qur'an .....	188
Guidance of the Messengers and the errors of philosophers .....	189
What a believer should do .....	191

## Publisher's Note

No doubt, alien philosophies and ideologies pose a threat to Islam. But who can deny the internal deviations and dissensions which have played a greater role in tampering with the purity of Islamic beliefs and simplicity of its practices?

At the core of Islam is Tawhid (Oneness of Allāh) from which emanate both the creed and deeds of Muslims. Thus the credal deviations and heresies as well as the innovated practices affect the purity of Tawhid. Notwithstanding almost all great men of learning and reformers have understood and declared this fact, Sheikhul Islam Ibn Taimya was incomparably vocal and his voice was dauntlessly express. All of his works and *Fatawa* (legal rulings) testify to it.

Our present society — teeming with polytheistic and innovated practices such as invoking the dead, festivals at shrines, seeking help of soothsayers and exorcists, celebration of the birth or death anniversaries of Prophets and saints, unlawful vow and offering, unlawful journeys to mosques and shrines, unlawful sanctification of persons, places and times, belief in omens and countless other superstitions and so on — stands in need of Sheikhul Islam's works that have educated and guided both the commoners and scholars for the last several centuries.

*The Right Way* is a summarized translation of Ibn Taimya's great work, *Iqida-us-Siratil Mustaqueem*. I hope and pray that the living topics discussed herein in a highly erudite but lucid style, which has been more or less transferred into English, would enlighten the readers and guide the seekers of truth.

A brief account of the life of Sheikhul Islam is also produced on the forthcoming pages.

Abdul Malik Mujahid  
General Manager